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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/551,399	04/17/2000	Christopher J. Chase	03493.86913	1414

7590 12/29/2004

Mr. S. H. Dworetsky
AT&T Corp., Room 2A-207
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Bedminster, NJ 07921

EXAMINER

HOM, SHICK C

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2666

DATE MAILED: 12/29/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/551,399

Applicant(s)

CHASE ET AL.

Examiner

Shick C Hom

Art Unit

2666

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 November 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 32,34,35 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 37 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 32,34 and 35 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

Art Unit: 2666

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 32 and 34-35 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in

Art Unit: 2666

order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

4. Claims 32 and 34-35 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Aho (6,185,215) in view of Johnson et al. (5,974,052).

Regarding claim 32:

Aho discloses the network comprising: customer premises equipment; a frame relay switch coupled to the customer premises equipment with at least one permanent virtual circuit and receiving a plurality of frame relay data packets (see Figs. 9 and 13, the frame relay switch including the PVC), the frame relay switch for translating user data within at least one of the frame relay data packets (see col. 6 line 55 to col. 7 line 6 which recite the IP/FR traffic being mapped to PVC wherein frames are sent down PVC through destination address clearly anticipate the step of translating frame relay data packets); wherein the frame relay switch is responsive to a plurality of different service categories and configured to determine a quality of service responsive to layer 4 data (see col. 9 lines 40-50 which recite further switching and routing the data responsive to quality of service QoS parameters).

Regarding claims 34-35:

Art Unit: 2666

Aho discloses wherein the frame relay switch is responsive to Internet protocol (IP) data within the frame relay data packets as in claim 34 and wherein the frame relay switch is responsive to layer 3 Internet protocol (IP) data as in claim 35 (see col. 1 lines 35-55, Fig. 9, col. 4 line 64 to col. 5 line 22, and col. 6 line 55 to col. 7 line 6 which recite the internet protocol packets within the frame).

For claim 32, Aho discloses all the subject matter of the claimed invention with the exception of the fast packet address being the result of the translation as recited in claim 32.

Johnson et al. from the same or similar fields of endeavor teach that it is known to use fast packet address (see col. 1 lines 22-51 which recite frame relay switching of fast packet being popular as an efficient and economical means to transport large quantities of data across WANs). Thus, it would have been obvious to the person having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to route fast packet as taught by Johnson et al. in the communications network of Aho. The fast packet can be implemented by connecting the fast packet network of Johnson et al. into the network of Aho. The motivation for using fast packet network as taught by Johnson et al. in the communication network of Aho being that it provides more

Art Unit: 2666

efficiency and an economical means of transporting large quantities of data across WANs.

Conclusion

5. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Williams discloses cache for improving the connection capacity of a communications switch. See the frame relay switch in col. 3 lines 25-35, translations of the header in col. 4 lines 4-17, and responsive to quality of service parameter in col. 7 lines 6-15 and 43-48.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shick C Hom whose telephone number is 571-272-3173. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday with alternate Fridays off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Seema Rao can be reached on 571-272-3174. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2666

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



SH

FRANK DUONG
PRIMARY EXAMINER